## Message Text

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**ACTION SS-25** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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P 061201Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1700

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 4505

**EXDIS** 

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (HASKELL, FLOYD K.) SUBJECT: CODEL HASKELL

REF: STATE 79846

- 1. WE NOTE SENATOR HASKELL'S INTEREST IN MEETING WITH MUHAMMAD HEYKAL AND MUHAMMAD SID AHMAD. LATTER IS LEADING EGYPTIAN COMMUNIST WHO HAS BEEN STRIPPED OF ALL MEANINGFUL JOBS AT AHRAM, CHIEFLY BECAUSE OF HIS CONTINUING CLOSE TIES WITH HEYKAL. NEVERTHELESS, SEE NO TROUBLE IN OUR ARRANGING FOR MEETING WITH SID AHMAD WHO IS WELL KNOWN JOURNALIST, CONTINUES TO BE ON AHRAM PAYROLL AND IS A USEFUL SOUNDING BOARD FOR LEFTWING VIEWS.
- 2. REGARDING MEETING WITH HEYKAL, THERE IS A PROBLEM: SENATOR SHOULD BE AWARE THAT PRESIDENT SADAT IS VERY UPSET WITH HEYKAL AT PRESENT TIME. PRESIDENT REGARDS HIS ACTIVITIES AS TREASONABLE AND HAS SAID SO PUBLICLY. SUCH A MEETING WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE USED BY HEYKAL TO UNDERSCORE HIS IMPORTANCE IN PULBIC EYE AND WOULD HARDLY BE HELPFUL TO SADAT. IF IT IS ARRANGED BY EMBASSY, HEYKAL WILL ALSO USE THIS TO HIS ADVANTAGE. GOE HAS IN PAST MADE CLEAR TO US IT PREFERS EMBASSY MAKE NO APPOINTMENT FOR VIPS WITH HEYKAL. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, SENATOR STEVENSON MET WITH HEYKAL, BUT MEETING WAS ARRANGED BY SENATOR'S AIDE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE FROM EMBASSY.

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3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT DISCUSS MATTER WITH SENATOR

HASKELL TO EXPLAIN THAT IF SENATOR WANTS MEET WITH HEYKAL, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF SUCH MEETING WERE ARRANGED EITHER BY SENATOR'S STAFF OR THIRD PARTY. SENATOR SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE HEYKAL'S PROBABLY FUTURE USE SUCH A MEETING FOR HIS (HEYKAL) OWN GAIN AND TO EMBARRASS SADAT. EILTS

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